

**Standards of Accreditation Chapter 55**  
**Final Recommended Changes to Chapter 55 Rule Language**  
**April 2012**

Administrative Rules of Montana 10.55.1001-1003	Recommended Changes
<b>10.55.1001 District's Responsibilities For Program Delivery Standards</b>	
(1) It is the school district's responsibility to incorporate content and performance standards into its curriculum, implementing them sequentially. (History: 20-2-114, MCA; IMP, 20-2-121, 20-3-106, 20-7-101, MCA; NEW, 1989 MAR p. 342, Eff. 7/1/89; AMD, 1998 MAR p. 2707, Eff. 10/9/98; AMD, 2000 MAR p. 3340, Eff. 12/8/00; AMD, 2001 MAR p. 953, Eff. 6/8/01.)	(1) It is the school district's responsibility to incorporate content <del>and performance standards</del> into its curriculum, implementing them sequentially.
<b>10.55.1003 Program Foundational Standards</b>	
(1) The purpose of all programs is to develop and apply knowledge and skills necessary to pursue lifelong goals and opportunities. Program foundation standards are the common conditions, practices, and resources that cross all programs within a school system to ensure that all students have educational opportunity to learn, develop, and demonstrate learning to the content and performance standards. All programs shall follow the content and performance standards in the accreditation rules of Montana. In addition, all programs shall work to:	(1) The purpose of all programs is to develop and apply knowledge and skills necessary to pursue lifelong goals and opportunities. Program foundation standards are the common conditions <u>and</u> practices, <del>and resources that cross</del> <u>will be evident</u> in all programs within a school system to ensure that all students have educational opportunity to learn, develop, and demonstrate learning of the content <del>and performance standards</del> <u>and content specific grade-level learning progressions</u> . All programs shall follow the content <del>and performance standards</del> in the accreditation rules of Montana. <del>In addition, all</del> <u>The</u> programs shall <del>work to:</del>

<b>Administrative Rules of Montana 10.55.1001-1003</b>	<b>Recommended Changes</b>
(a) meet the following conditions:	No Change
(i) incorporate in curricular programs the distinct and unique cultural heritage of American Indians	No Change
(ii) provide effective health enhancement instruction to all grades and to provide such instruction on a daily basis as part of the basic elementary education program	<del>(ii) provide effective health enhancement instruction to all grades and to provide such instruction on a daily basis as part of the basic elementary education program;</del>
(iii) provide physically, emotionally, and educationally safe and supportive learning and working environments, including environments free from bullying, intimidation and harassment	<del>(iii) provide physically, emotionally, and educationally safe and supportive learning and working environments, including environments free from bullying, intimidation and harassment;</del>
(iv) ensure an educational climate that promotes academic freedom and respect for diversity (e.g., gender, race, ethnicity, economic status, native language, disability, special gift and talent)	<del>(iv)(ii) ensure an educational climate that promotes academic freedom and respect for diversity with prejudice toward none. e.g., gender, race, ethnicity, economic status, native language, disability, special gift and talent)</del>
(v) maintain high expectations for student performance and behavior, and challenge every student at his/her level of need that stimulates a desire for lifelong learning	<del>(iii) maintain high expectations for student performance, and behavior and challenge every student at his/her level of need that stimulates a desire for life-long learning;</del>
(vi) encourage collaboration among school personnel to plan, assess, and support instruction	<del>(iv) encourage collaboration among school personnel to plan, assess, and support instruction</del>
(vii) build school calendars and schedules based upon instructional needs	<del>(vii) build school calendars and schedules based upon instructional needs</del>

<b>Administrative Rules of Montana 10.55.1001-1003</b>	<b>Recommended Changes</b>
(b) include the following practices:	No Change
(i) align local curricula with the Montana content and performance standards	<del>(i) align local curricula with the Montana content and performance standards</del>
(ii) offer engaging experiences that enable students to develop communication skills for fulfillment in their personal lives, workplaces, and communities	<del>(ii)</del> <u>(i) offer engaging experiences that enable students to develop <b>effective</b> communication skills for fulfillment in their personal lives, workplaces, and communities;</u>
(iii) teach ethical behavior and the implications of one's choices	<u>(ii) teach ethical behavior and the implications of one's choices;</u>
(iv) implement research-based instructional skills and strategies to improve student learning	<u>(iii) implement research-based instructional skills and strategies to improve student learning;</u>
(v) encourage the use of the inquiry process and the application of multiple thinking, decision-making, and problem-solving skills	<del>(iv) encourage the use of the inquiry process and the application of multiple thinking, decision-making, and problem-solving skills</del> <u>challenge students to think critically and use the inquiry process to solve problems and inform decisions;</u>
(vi) emphasize common unifying themes or principles that build on students' prior experiences	<del>(v) emphasize common unifying themes or principles that build on students' prior experiences</del> <u>encourage interdisciplinary instruction;</u>
(vii) provide learning experiences that connect the disciplines and transfer learning from one context to another	<del>(vi) provide learning experiences that connect the disciplines and transfer learning from one context to another</del> <u>use formative and summative assessments to shape instruction and inform decision making and increase student learning</u>
(viii) integrate information literacy skills, technology tools, and workplace competencies to support learning in all curricular areas	<del>(viii) integrate information literacy skills, technology tools, and workplace competencies to support learning in all curricular areas</del>

<b>Administrative Rules of Montana 10.55.1001-1003</b>	<b>Recommended Changes</b>
(c) provide the following resources:	<del>(c) provide the following resources:</del>
(i) access to regional, community, and school-based resources for teaching and learning	<del>(i) access to regional, community, and school-based resources for teaching and learning</del>
(ii) qualified staff necessary to support the instructional process, including elementary teachers (00 endorsement) with at least ten semester credits in assigned subject areas when teaching departmentalized grades 5-8	<del>(ii) qualified staff necessary to support the instructional process, including elementary teachers (00 endorsement) with at least ten semester credits in assigned subject areas when teaching departmentalized grades 5-8</del>
(iii) equitable access to all facilities, technology, equipment, materials, and services necessary to support the instructional process	<del>(iii) equitable access to all facilities, technology, equipment, materials, and services necessary to support the instructional process</del>
(iv) time for professional development that supports learning for all	<del>(iv) time for professional development that supports learning for all</del>
(v) a well-conceived mentoring program for teachers in the first three years of teaching	<del>(v) a well-conceived mentoring program for teachers in the first three years of teaching</del>
(vi) access to a variety of current technologies and information resources (e.g., libraries, databases, computer networks, videos). (History: 20-2-114, MCA; IMP, 20-2-121, 20-3-106, 20-7-101, MCA; NEW, 2001 MAR p. 953, Eff. 6/8/01; AMD, 2003 MAR p. 554, Eff. 3/28/03; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 755, Eff. 3/24/06.)	<del>(vi) access to a variety of current technologies and information resources (e.g., libraries, databases, computer networks, videos)</del>